



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

15th July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

In light of the forecast for unusually hot weather we are taking a number of measures.

Hot Weather on Trips

Monday and Tuesday are forecast to be very hot next week, particularly in the afternoon. It is the rewards day for Year 7 on Monday and Year 8 on Tuesday.

For those on trips students **MUST** bring plenty of water, money to purchase more water, a hat, clothing to cover shoulders and arms and have their own sunscreen with them. We advise students to wear clothes that cover areas that are prone to sunburn such as shoulders. Please impress upon your child to reapply sunscreen every 2 hours and hydrate every hour.

The weather in Flamingo Land is forecast to be much cooler than Horsforth and the Met Office (more reliable than BBC in my experience) says it should not exceed 28 degrees on Monday and Tuesday:

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/forecast/gcxkmscbh#?date=2022-07-18>

Hot Weather in School

For Monday and Tuesday in school we will be permitting students to wear their PE kit for these days only (students can come in uniform too). The proper and full PE kit can only be worn. Not personal sportswear. If students come to school wearing clothes that are not the approved PE kit for their Year group, they will be sent home to change.

If students come in uniform they can take off their jumpers, ties and have their top button undone.

To summarise, we will be putting a number of mitigations in place for **Monday and Tuesday only**:

- We have mapped the rooms that are coolest in the school and staff are able to book a room change if their classroom is in a warmer area.
- PE are considering the activities and locations for practical lessons over these two days.
- Students will be reminded to fill their water bottles during changeover and during break/lunch.
- Students can come in the school PE kit.
- Students do not have to wear a tie and have their top button done up.

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Students must be in proper uniform on Wednesday with ties and top buttons done up. It will remain jumpers off until the end of term.

High expectations and standards are a vital ingredient in any school's success so whilst we are putting measures in place for Monday and Tuesday I really appreciate your support in keeping these up from Wednesday onwards.

I am monitoring the weather and whilst the BBC website has a headline there is a RED weather alert this is not for our area: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/forecast/gcwf6c9sr#?date=2022-07-18>. Please rest assured I am continuing to monitor this.

Exciting Opportunities - Vacancies at Horsforth

We have two vacancies currently that may be of interest to yourself or someone you know, a Pastoral Support Officer who will support a Year group and a Learning Support Mentor who will work in our SEND department. Full training will be provided and more information, along with application forms, can be found here:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/vacancies/>

Link to the Pastoral and Behaviour Officer Vacancy: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/vacancies/pastoral-and-behaviour-officer/>

Link to the Learning Support Mentor vacancy: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/vacancies/learning-support-mentor/>

Females in STEM

We have been selected by Ernst & Young (EY) to offer girls aged 13-18 years old first access to the UK rollout of a new educational STEM app, as part of the pilot. The EY STEM app has been developed to encourage more girls to identify, inspire and empower the next generation STEM leaders and ultimately to help tackle gender inequalities.

If your daughter is between the ages of 13-18 and interested in all things STEM then get her to download the EY STEM App. It is a free innovative gamified mobile platform for girls and is in line with EY's commitment to impact One Billion Lives by 2030.

The app currently has 17 channels (with more being rolled out) which have over 450 activities between them. It covers a variety of different STEM topics such as "Help the World", "Understanding Myself", "Getting Creative" and many more. The content for the activities has been provided by organisations such as NASA, Stanford University, UNESCO and others. The contact aims to give girls a transferable skillset including collaboration, creativity, self-confidence and efficiency.

Your child earns points as they complete activities such as gamified digital and real-life activities e.g. science experiments, individually and/or in teams, reading news articles, watching videos and answering thought provoking questions. The points earned can be redeemed for Fun (including vouchers), Important (including work shadowing) or Lasting rewards (including donations to charities).

If your daughter is interested then please tell her to look at her Computer Science Google classroom or

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contact the Computer Science department before the end of term.

First day back in September

New Year 7 will be expected back on Monday 5th September between 8am and 8.20am. The school gate will close at 8.20am. Students will have a 2-hour orientation with key staff and their new tutors. Lessons will start mid-morning.

For Years 8-11, students are expected back on 5th September and will arrive at break time, gates will open at 10.50am and close at 11.05am. School will start at 11.10am. Students will have a 1-hour orientation and will get to know their new Tutors if applicable. Lessons will resume after this.

Year 12 enrolment will begin on Monday 5th and Year 13 enrolment will be on Tuesday 6th. Students will receive further details about when they should attend on these days.

Rewards Week w/c 18th July

Individual year group emails have already been sent earlier this week with the times for each activity over the 4 days. As a reminder, for both Flamingo Land and Alton Towers, all students must come to school via the top front entrance from Lee Lane East. Students going to Flamingo Land need to be at 7.20am and will be expected back approximately 5.15pm, with students for Alton Towers arriving at 6.45am, expected back at approximately 6.30pm.

Students have fun in school, and should be here at 9.30am, reporting to the main front reception. Those not eligible will have a normal day at school.

There will be a celebration assembly for all years and all students on the last day of term, where all students will reflect on the year, their achievements and success, and look forward to next year.

Early Finish - 22nd July

The final day of term is 22nd July. School closes for students at 12.15pm. Students can pick up their free school meal or spend their allowance at break time.

Sports Fixtures

Cricket

Year 7 beat St Mary's, Menston by 6 runs.

Player of the match - Olly.

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

The new guidance from the government making Sex Education statutory came out in 2020. All schools as a result must follow statutory programmes of study to all students in years 7-11. At the time, we consulted with all stakeholders on our policy and programmes of study and we make it clear that parents and carers have the right to withdraw if they so wish to.

It is good practice to share the policy with parents and carers and ask for feedback. The policy is on our website. We have however added a link to this here: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Relationships-and-Sex-Education-Policy.pdf>

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If you have time and wish to add your comments or feedback on this, please do so by answering this quick survey, link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17ZP_a85cuDsw5H4EhjXUZuNgeoFNLcKorUN050Hx-d0/edit?ts=62ce7356

We are really looking forward to the rewards trips next week but please stress the need to stay hydrated, wear sensible clothes for hot weather and bring sun cream. Students are still allowed to wear masks where they wish and whilst we would encourage this on the coach it is entirely voluntary and this may be uncomfortable if it is hot.

I know many students do this but a slightly underfilled plastic water bottle frozen overnight can be a really good way of supporting keeping cool.

We will be sending out our termly newsletter next week and I will send my final letter of the academic year on Friday.

Thank you, as always, for feedback and kind messages.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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